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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR/Iran

DATE DISTR. 26 April 1951

SUBJECT Soviet Activity along the Iranian Border

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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The following is a summary of Soviet military activity and the movement of Soviet troops and military equipment along the Iranian border for the period 9 - 14 April 1951.

1. Pol Dasht
12-13 April
(report for two days)

One carload of machine guns and one carload of troops were observed moving west by rail toward Yerevan.

Two carloads of weapons carriers were observed moving east by rail toward Nakhichevan.

2100-0200 hours About 30 trucks were observed moving constantly on the road from Tiviai (not located) to Yalguzaghai (not located) opposite the post of Qarakhualuzi. Source commented that such activity was observed before only at the time the Germans were preparing to attack the USSR through the Caucasus.

2. Dzhulfa
12 April

Two trucks carrying 30 soldiers and two guns were observed moving from Nakhichevan to Dzhulfa.

One truck with one gun was observed moving west from Ordubad to Dzhulfa.

1900-2200 hours

380 white rockets were fired from two points on the heights north of Dzhulfa. 250 rockets were fired on the heights near the post opposite Shah Abbasi. Source stated that this is unprecedented action.

Two trucks with guns were observed eastbound from Dzhulfa.

13 April

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14 April

Two trains with troops were observed moving east from Dzhulfa.

One truck with a gun was observed eastbound from Nakhichevan to Dzhulfa to Ordubad.

Two trucks with one gun were observed moving west from Dzhulfa to Nakhichevan.

Rifle firing practice took place at Dzhulfa from 12-14 April.

3. Garbi
9 April

Activity has increased daily in this sector. Constant movement of trucks and autos has been observed. Some of the carts observed primarily carried soldiers.

14 April

The loads of vehicles recently observed in constant movement have been confirmed as consisting chiefly of wood or boxes.

An unstated number of troops in the Garbi area repaired roads and burned brush.

4. Astara
9 April

Southbound road traffic from Lenkoran to Astara included two trucks.

Northbound road traffic from Astara to Lenkoran included two groups of armed troops and one truck carrying armed troops.

Westbound road traffic from Astara to Masjed Mahalleh included one truck carrying troops.

Road traffic from the last western post under observation to Masjed Mahalleh included four vehicles carrying 35 armed troops, three officers, and two civilians.

11 April

Southbound road traffic from Lenkoran to Astara included twelve covered trucks and one truck carrying troops.

One armored car was observed moving behind P.V. (Border Guard) headquarters. Northbound road traffic from Astara to Lenkoran included one long-barreled gun and one group of armed troops.

Westbound road traffic from Astara to Masjed Mahalleh included one truck full of troops; one truck carrying ten troops, and one cart with 12 civilians.

Eastbound road traffic from Masjed Mahalleh to Astara included four vehicles carrying four civilians, five officers, and five armed troops.

Road traffic from Masjed Mahalleh to the last western post under observation included five vehicles carrying 34 armed troops, two officers, and four civilians.

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Road traffic from the last western post under observation to Masjed Mahalleh included two carts carrying 24 armed troops.

12 April

Southbound road traffic from Lenkoran to Astara included two trucks carrying armed troops and one truck carrying unarmed troops.

Northbound road traffic from Astara to Lenkoran included six trucks carrying 12 officers and 75 armed troops; and two carts carrying 12 armed troops.

Road traffic from Masjed Mahalleh to the last western post under observation included two trucks and three carts carrying 25 armed and six unarmed troops.

Road traffic from the last western post under observation to Masjed Mahalleh included two carts carrying 14 unarmed troops.

Westbound road traffic from Astara to Masjed Mahalleh included two groups of armed troops on foot, one group of armed troops on horseback, and five vehicles carrying 48 armed troops.

Eastbound road traffic from Masjed Mahalleh to Astara included three vehicles carrying six officers, 42 armed troops, and six civilians.

11-12 April

Rifle and machine gun practice took place in the area of Astara.

5. Lutfabad
(no date given)

One carload of weapons carriers was observed moving by rail toward Ashkhabad.

One carload of guns was observed moving by rail toward Kaakha.

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